

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internal Application No
PCT/NL2004/000739

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 H01M8/16 G01N27/40 G01N27/26 C12Q1/00 C12Q1/26
C12Q1/54

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 H01M G01N C12Q

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4 622 294 A (KUNG ET AL) 11 November 1986 (1986-11-11) the whole document	1-35
A	US 6 022 500 A (JOHN ET AL) 8 February 2000 (2000-02-08) the whole document	1-35
A,P	WO 2004/051774 A (ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY; MINTEER, SHELLEY, D; AKERS, NIKI, L; MOORE, CHRI) 17 June 2004 (2004-06-17) the whole document	1-35
A	GB 1 297 221 A (CENTRE DE RECHERCHE THERAPEUTIQUE) 22 November 1972 (1972-11-22) the whole document	1-35
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

G document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

4 April 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

21/04/2005

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>WO 03/050896 A (POWERZYME, INC) 19 June 2003 (2003-06-19) cited in the application the whole document</p>	1-35

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Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☒ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: -

Present independent claim 1 and thus also the independent method and use claims referring to him relate to an extremely large number of possible products or methods. In fact, claim 1 contains so many options, variables, possible permutations and provisos that a lack of clarity (and conciseness) within the meaning of Article 6 PCT arises to such an extent as to render a meaningful search of the claim 1 impossible. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the application which do appear to be clear (and concise), namely claim 1 restricted by the following essential technical features

- (1) the outer shell of the particle should be conductive
- (2) there has to be a connection between the conductive outer shells of the particles

It is clear from the description on pages 2 - 4 and from the example that the features (1) and (2) are essential to the definition of a suspension that can be used to generate a current of electrons. Since claim 1 does not contain these features, it does not meet the requirement following from Article 6 PCT taken in combination with Rule 6.3(b) PCT that any independent claim must contain all the technical features essential to the definition of the invention.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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WO 03050896	A	19-06-2003	US 2003087141 A1 US 2003087144 A1 US 2003198859 A1 US 2003129469 A1 US 2003198858 A1 US 2003113606 A1 AU 2002331014 A1 AU 2002353776 A1 AU 2002364930 A1 CA 2444410 A1 CA 2470107 A1 CA 2470123 A1 CA 2470125 A1 EP 1386369 A1 EP 1461840 A1 EP 1464119 A2 EP 1461607 A2 WO 02086999 A1 WO 03050896 A2 WO 03050897 A2 WO 03054995 A1 US 2003049511 A1 US 2003031911 A1	08-05-2003 08-05-2003 23-10-2003 10-07-2003 23-10-2003 19-06-2003 09-07-2003 23-06-2003 23-06-2003 31-10-2002 03-07-2003 19-06-2003 19-06-2003 04-02-2004 29-09-2004 06-10-2004 29-09-2004 31-10-2002 19-06-2003 19-06-2003 03-07-2003 13-03-2003 13-02-2003